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REPORT

OF

TREASURER,

Overseers of the Poor,

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEES,

OF THE

TOWN OF AMHERST,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1ST, 1875.

CABINET PRESS, AMHERST.

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1875

REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER.

TREASURER IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TOWN OF AMHERST:—

| | |
|---|------------------|
| DR.—To balance in Treasury, March 1st, 1874 | \$1843 30 |
| In Collector's hands, | 1000 00 |
| Taxes assessed, | 9248 83 |
| Insurance Tax, | 7 50 |
| Railroad Tax, | 634 81 |
| Literary Fund, | 87 74 |
| Savings Bank Tax, | 2298 51 |
| United States Bounty, | 160 00 |
| Interest on Taxes, 1873 | 29 51 |
| Interest on Taxes, 1874, | 23 11 |
| J. B. Fay, for rent of Town Hall, | 129 35 |
| J. B. Fay, Lots Sold in Cemetery | 6 00 |
| Interest from Lawrence fund, | 70 87 |
| Received from Town Farm, | 101 22 |
| | <hr/> \$15640 75 |

CR.—BY CASH PAID OUT AS FOLLOWS:—

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| State Tax, | \$1852 00 |
| County Tax, | 1049 61 |
| Schools, | 2851 35 |
| School House Tax, | 196 10 |
| Town Officers, | 777 05 |
| Fire Department, | 185 07 |
| Miscellaneous, | 1941 59 |
| Snow Bills, | 108 32 |
| Roads and Bridges | 1324 86 |
| Principal and Interest, | 2476 72 |
| N. H. Asylum Expense E. P. Shepard | 229 03 |
| Aid to Mrs. Aiken, | 61 75 |
| Aid to A. P. Shepard, | 10 75 |
| In Hands of Collector, | 1200 00 |
| In hands of Treasurer, | 1376 55 |
| | <hr/> \$15640 75 |

SCHOOL HOUSE TAX

| | |
|--|----------------|
| W. N. Patterson, District No. 2, | \$ 40 00 |
| Extra Schooling, “ “ | 110 00 |
| A. S. Wilkins, “ 8, | 20 10 |
| P. F. Odell, “ 10, | 26 00 |
| Balance due, “ 11, | 9 13 |
| | <hr/> \$196 10 |

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| H. E. Woodberry, Repairs on Town Hall, | \$33 16 |
| J. B. Fay, " " " | 93 60 |
| C. S. Parker, Wood for " " | 17 25 |
| N. M. Melendy, Repairs on, " " | 15 00 |
| R. H. Orcutt, " " " | 2 00 |
| J. P. Nourse, " " " | 54 61 |
| J. Knight, Lumber for " " | 108 31 |
| Burt & Phelps, Repairs on " " | 158 61 |
| Stamps, Copying and Stationery, | 21 85 |
| Boylston & Rotch, Printing Reports, Advertising, &c.. | 60 25 |
| J. E. King, Stone work on Town Hall, | 290 87 |
| H. E. Woodberry, Cord for Town Clock, | 3 75 |
| A. B. Bennett, Labor on Town Hall, | 6 00 |
| J. Hartshorn, Repairs on " " | 20 57 |
| B. B. Whiting, Wood for " " | 5 50 |
| H. W. Marvell, Work in Cemetery, | 10 75 |
| S. B. Melendy, Water Bills, | 12 00 |
| Blank Books, Stationery, &c. | 10 75 |
| Weston & Stevens, Plastering, | 43 47 |
| Committee on Town Hall, for stock. | 52 63 |
| Perley Dodge, Counsel and Services | 20 60 |
| H. M. Parker, Care of Town Clock, one year, | 17 00 |
| Paul Otis and Son, | 10 50 |
| N. H. George, Repairs on Town Hall, | 12 00 |
| N. H. George, Sawing Wood | 2 50 |
| Geo. Walker, Repairs on Town Hall, | 3 30 |
| John Carlton, " " Clock, | 3 00 |
| J. B. Fay, Undertaker's Services and Expenses, | 94 15 |
| J. H. Coggin and others, Watering troughs, | 24 00 |
| Non-resident Highway Receipts. | 50 03 |
| R. T. Knight, Expenses to Nashua, Manchester and Concord. | 16 00 |
| Abatements, 1873 | 13 28 |
| Discount on Taxes for 1874, | 183 48 |
| Dr. B. H. Bartlett, Medical Attendance and Medicine, | 37 50 |
| J. B. Fay, Sundry Bills, | 97 21 |
| Abatements for 1874 | 231 83 |
| P. W. Dodge, Repairs on Town Hall, | 6 00 |
| A. A. Rotch, Notifying Jurors &c., | 4 55 |
| | <hr/> \$1941 59 |

TOWN OFFICERS.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| J. B. Fay, | } Selectmen, | \$160 00 |
| B. R. Came, | | 135 00 |
| Thos. Jones, | | 115 00 |
| N. H. George, Collector, | | 100 00 |
| R. T. Knight, Treasurer, | | 50 00 |
| A. A. Rotch, Town Clerk, | | 62 00 |
| A. Heald, Supt. of Schools, | | 59 00 |
| B. H. Bartlett, Supt. of Dist. No. 1, | | 20 00 |

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| E. R. Burt, Police and Expenses, | \$15 00 | |
| F. P. Phelps, " " " | 8 05 | |
| W. A. Mack, Moderator, | 5 00 | |
| G. W. Bosworth, and H. E. Woodberry, Auditors, | 6 00 | |
| W. D. Forsaith, Services as Clerk, from Mar. 1st to Mar. 12th, | 6 00 | |
| Overseers of Poor, | 30 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$777 05 |

TOWN DEBT.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Amount of notes against the town, | | \$4302 00 |
| " in collector's hands, | \$1200 00 | |
| " in liquor agent's hands, | 475 39 | |
| " in treasury, | 1376 55 | |
| | <hr/> | \$3051 94 |
| Total debt of the town, | | \$1251 06 |

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT T. KNIGHT, Town Treasurer.

AMHERST, N. H., Feb. 27, 1875.—We have examined the foregoing account and find it properly vouched and correctly cast.

GEO. W. BOSWORTH, }
H. E. WOODBERRY. } AUDITORS

TOWN PROPERTY.

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| Town House and Lot, estimated value, | \$10000 00 | |
| Stoves, furniture and fixtures in town house, | 500 00 | |
| Town farm and buildings, | 8000 00 | |
| Personal property at farm, | 2500 00 | |
| Engine house and lot, | 1700 00 | |
| Stoves and fixtures in engine house, | 150 00 | |
| 2 fire engines, | 875 00 | |
| 1 hose carriage, | 50 00 | |
| 750 feet hose, | 750 00 | |
| Hearse and house, | 700 00 | |
| Soldiers' Monument, | 4500 00 | |
| Town clock and bell, | 1000 00 | |
| 2 Safes, | 150 00 | |
| 1 Road Plow, | 15 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$30890 00 |

REPORT OF THE OVERSEERS OF POOR,

For the Year Ending March 1, 1875.

CASH PAID.

| | |
|--|----------|
| For support of E. P. Shepard, at Insane Asylum, Concord. | \$229 03 |
| Aid furnished Mrs. E. Aiken, | 61 75 |
| “ “ A. P. Shepard, | 10 75 |
| Overseers of Poor, | 30 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$331 53 |
| Cash from Treasury to balance, | 331 53 |
| | <hr/> |

TOWN FARM EXPENDITURES.

1874.

| | |
|---|---------|
| April 4, Cumner & Co., Buffalo Robe, | \$15 00 |
| “ 9, Frank Wilkins, for carying milk, | 12 10 |
| “ 10, I. P. Weston, for Bull, | 30 00 |
| “ “ Jacob B. Upham, for Cow, | 65 00 |
| “ 11, J. O. Pulsifer, 2 Bags Meal, | 3 70 |
| “ “ M. Barr & Co. 5 “ “ | 9 25 |
| “ 22, O. Carter, for Lumber, | 3 30 |
| “ 23, M. Barr & Co., 5 Bags Meal. | 9 25 |
| “ 24, Gray & Howard, Cotton Cloth. | 5 87 |
| “ 25, A. A. Gilson, 1000 lbs. Shorts, | 15 50 |
| May 4, H. E. Woodberry, 5 Bags Meal, | 9 50 |
| “ 6, H. E. Woodberry, Oats and Grass Seed. | 16 42 |
| “ 8, Nourse & Stearns, for Grinding, | 17 24 |
| “ “ C. S. Parker, Vinegar, | 4 00 |
| “ “ J. G. Haseltine, for butter, | 6 00 |
| “ 13, J. O. Pulsifer, 5 Bags Meal, | 9 50 |
| “ 18, J. O. Pulsifer, 5 Bags Meal, | 9 50 |
| “ 22, H. E. Woodberry, 5 Bags Meal, | 9 50 |
| “ 23, G. Parker Jr., for Apples and Butter, | 16 00 |
| “ 25, Mark Lovejoy, for Cow, | 60 00 |
| “ “ Walter Reed, | 2 00 |
| “ 26, Joseph Butterfield, Days Work, | 1 50 |
| June 1, H. E. Woodberry, 5 Bags Meal, | 9 50 |
| “ 4, D. W. Melendy, Labor, | 6 50 |
| “ “ B. F. Hazen for Maple Sugar, | 1 50 |
| “ 6, James Lovejoy, for Labor, | 1 63 |
| “ 8, C. Merrill, Bbl Plaster, | 2 61 |
| “ 9, James Lovejoy, Shearing Sheep, | 1 33 |
| “ 10, M. Barr & Co, Meal and Floor, | 20 75 |

| | |
|---|--------|
| June 17, Wm. Wetherbee, Tomatoe and Cabbage Plants, | \$3 10 |
| " 24, Marshall Bros., 19 lbs. Butter, | 5 70 |
| " " M. Barr & Co., 5 Bags of Meal, | 8 75 |
| " 30, Frank Wilkins, Carrying Milk, | 9 53 |
| July 9, H. E. Woodberry, 5 Bags Meal, | 8 75 |
| " 11, R. M. Rollins, Horse Pitchfork, | 20 85 |
| " 23, H. E. Woodberry, 5 Bags Meal, | 8 75 |
| " " Express, | 50 |
| " 30 E. P. Couch, Flour, Sugar and Coffee, | 27 72 |
| " " Marshall Bros., 20 lbs Butter, | 6 00 |
| Aug. 5, Geo. Walker & Son 5 Bags Meal, | 8 75 |
| " 8, John Palmer, Labor, | 8 75 |
| " 12, A. A. Bills, Labor, | 9 00 |
| " 13, John S. Pool, for Cow, | 50 00 |
| " 22, Geo. Walker & Son, 5 Bags Meal, | 9 50 |
| " " G. Parker Jr., Labor, | 2 50 |
| " 28, Wm. Patterson, Repairs on Wagon, | 2 75 |
| Sept. 5, Geo. Waker & Son, 5 Bags Meal, | 9 50 |
| " 25, " " " " " " | 10 35 |
| " " Rodney H. Prince, Labor, | 13 00 |
| " 28, Arthur Hill, Labor, | 11 40 |
| Oct. 7, Alonzo Shepard, Labor, | 4 00 |
| " 10, H. E. Woodberry's Bill, | 52 97 |
| " " Geo. Walker & Son, 5 Bags Meal, | 10 50 |
| " 12, J. O. Pulsifer, Bill, | 25 76 |
| " 13 Frank Wilkins, Carrying Milk, | 9 68 |
| " 23, Geo Walker, & Son, 5 Bags Meal, | 10 50 |
| Nov. 11, Samuel Wilkins, Tub Butter, | 13 87 |
| " 16, Geo. Walker & Son, 5 Bags Meal, | 10 40 |
| " 17, Chas. H. Goddard, Pasturing Cattle, | 12 00 |
| " 28, Geo. Walker & Son, 5 Bags Meal, | 10 20 |
| " " A. A. Gilson, $\frac{1}{4}$ ton Shorts, | 7 38 |
| " 30 Frank E. Parker, 8 months Labor, | 216 00 |
| Dec. 2, J. P. Nourse, Laying Floor, | 1 50 |
| " 15, C. P. Rossiter, $\frac{1}{4}$ Ton Shorts, | 7 00 |
| " 17, C. O. Parker, Potatoes, | 16 67 |
| " 19, Susan Lakeman, Work, | 8 00 |
| " 23, G. T. Fletcher, Crackers, | 1 90 |
| 1875. | |
| Jan. 7, C. H. Baker, Fish, | \$8 74 |
| " 9, C. P. Rossiter, Shorts, | 7 34 |
| " 11, A. H. McIntire, Repairs on Harness, | 3 47 |
| " 15, Gilbert Small's Bill, | 13 50 |
| " " Forsaith & Osgood, Meat Bill, | 10 00 |
| " " W. D. Forsaith, Groceries, | 2 73 |
| " 18, E. P. Couch, 2 Barrels Flour, | 16 50 |
| " " Barr & Co., Hardware, | 12 02 |
| " " Marshall Bros., Butter, | 13 69 |
| " " Verder & Co., Bbl. Flour, | 8 00 |
| " 28, Geo. Walker & Son, 14 Bags Meal, | 28 20 |

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Jan. 30, David Heald & Co., Saw Bill, | \$ 4 88 |
| " " A. A. Gilson, One Half Ton Shorts, | 15 00 |
| Feb. 9, Frank Wilkins, Carrying Milk, | 9 01 |
| " 10, David Whiting & Sons, 5 Bags Meal, | 9 50 |
| " 23, B. R. Came, for Cow, | 47 00 |
| " 24, H. E. Woodberry, Bill, | 12 78 |
| " " Geo. Walker. Blacksmith Bill, | 6 78 |
| " " A. F. Sawyer, for Grinding, | 4 40 |
| " " Nourse & Stearns, " | 3 64 |
| " " J. B. Fay, Bill, | 3 65 |
| " " G. S. Palmer, Medicine, | 3 03 |
| " 25, Mary A. Wood, for Labor, | 08 00 |
| " " J. O. Pulsifer, Groceries, | 23 24 |
| " " Frank E. Parker, Labor, | 20 00 |
| " 26, B. R. Came, | 5 00 |
| " " S. M. Barns, Eunis Stearns Board Bill. | 21 00 |
| " " " " " " " " | 19 29 |
| 1000 lb. Shorts, | 14 03 |
| " " Eaton & Osgood, for Meat, | 14 37 |
| " " David Roby, Oxen, | 215 00 |
| " " Granville Parker, Salery, | 450 00 |
| " " Cash Paid to the Treasurer, | 101 22 |
| | <hr/> \$2251 49 |

RECEIPTS.

1874.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Mar. 28, 1 Bushel Potatoes, | 75 |
| " 30, 2 cwt. Hay, | 2 00 |
| April 2, 3 Bush. Potatoes, | 2 25 |
| " 6, 2 Bush. Rye, | 2 50 |
| " 9, Milk Bill, | 90 10 |
| " 10, 10 Bush. Potatoes, | 8 00 |
| " 17, " " " | 8 00 |
| " 18, " " " | 8 50 |
| " 21, " " " | 8 00 |
| " 22, 10 lbs Rolls, | 7 50 |
| " 23, 10 Bush. Potatoes, | 8 00 |
| " 25, 2 lbs. Rolls, | 1 50 |
| May 4, 1 lb. Rolls, | 75 |
| " 6, Beef Cow, | 55 30 |
| " 13, R. S. Lakin for Stiles' Board, | 10 00 |
| " 14, J. Bills for Hay, | 37 67 |
| " 16, Milk Bill, | 101 32 |
| June 6, One Pig, | 4 00 |
| " 17, Milk Bill, | 89 40 |
| " 18, One Shoat, | 7 00 |
| " 19, Foster Brothers, Beef Cow, | 44 00 |
| " " Two Pigs, | 8 00 |
| " " Two pounds Rolls, | 1 50 |

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| " 23, One Pig, | \$ 4 00 |
| " 24, One Pig, | 4 00 |
| " " Eight bush. Potatoes | 5 00 |
| " " One Pig, | 4 00 |
| " 26 One Pig, | 4 50 |
| July 21, Milk Bill, | 74 82 |
| " " G. Danforth, | 44 70 |
| Aug. 8, Foster Bros., 10 Lambs, | 50 00 |
| " 14, Milk Bill, | 104 49 |
| Sept. 1, Use of Grove, | 5 00 |
| " 4, W. R. Clark, Hay, | 2 00 |
| " 10, Milk Bill, | 108 92 |
| " 15, " " | 99 51 |
| " " R. R. Ties, | 1 65 |
| Nov. 7, Milk Bill, | 78 12 |
| " " 14 Bushel Potatoes, | 10 00 |
| " 18, 1 Cow, | 75 00 |
| " " 1 Calf, | 1 00 |
| " 30, Horse Keeping, | 21 00 |
| Dec. 10, Milk Bill, | 60 72 |
| " 19, W. W. Robbins, Lumber, | 11 46 |
| " " 1 lb. Rolls, | 75 |
| " 24, 1 Bushel Potatoes, | 75 |
| 1875. | |
| Jan. 1, Foster Bros., One Sheep, | 5 00 |
| " 15, Forsaith & Osgood, for Hay, | 54 05 |
| " " Milk Bill, | 69 63 |
| " 18, Foster Bros., for Hide, | 4 75 |
| " 19, Calf Skin, | 4 00 |
| " 23, Edward Wiloughby, Sheep, | 4 00 |
| Feb. 10, Milk Bill, | 66 00 |
| " 17, Henry Robbins for Stave Stuff, | 50 00 |
| " 24, Forsaith & Osgood, for Beef | 107 28 |
| " " Buttrick, Lumber, | 11 69 |
| " " Walnuts sold, | 20 50 |
| " " Cabbages, | 43 45 |
| " " Keeping Sheep, | 4 50 |
| " " Poultry and Eggs, | 52 88 |
| " " Cabbage, | 6 00 |
| " " S. C. Damon, Oak and walnut Lumber, | 25 75 |
| " " Beans sold, | 12 44 |
| " 25 L. B. Fay, Potatoes and Walnuts, | 2 50 |
| " " Use of Bull, | 11 75 |
| " " Milk Bill, | 100 98 |
| " " Rent of Bacon House, | 47 92 |
| " " For Lewis Stiles' board, | 20 00 |
| " " P. W. Jones Sowing Grass Seed, | 3 00 |
| " " Wool Sold, | 22 06 |
| " " Eaton & Osgood, for Pork, | 21 13 |
| " " Eaton & Osgood, for Oxen, | 200 00 |
| " " Hay and Potatoes, | 2 70 |
| | <hr/> \$2251 49 |

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Receipts, | \$2251 49 |
| Expenditures, | 2150 27 |
| | <hr/> |
| Paid in Treasury, | 101 22 |
| Due for Milk, | 108 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 209 22 |

J. E. FAY
E. R. CAME. } Overseers of Poor.
THOS. JONES. }

AMHERST, N. H., FEB. 27TH, 1875.—We have examined the foregoing accounts, and find it properly vouched and correctly cast.

GEORGE W. BOSWORTH, }
HORACE E. WOODBERRY, } AUDITORS.

INVOICE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT TOWN FARM.

Taken February 25th, 1875.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 20 Tons English Hay, | 400 00 |
| 15 Tons Meadow Hay, | 180 00 |
| Lot Corn Fodder, | 12 00 |
| Meal and Shorts, | 4 00 |
| 12 Sheep, | 48 00 |
| 2 Horses, | 350 00 |
| 14 Cows | 800 00 |
| 1 Bull. | 40 00 |
| Lot Poultry, | 45 00 |
| Swarm Bees, | 6 00 |
| Lot of Lumber, | 30 00 |
| Seed and Sweet Corn, | 10 00 |
| 6 Bush. Rye, | 7 50 |
| 150 bush. Corn on the ear, | 75 00 |
| 2 Hogs, | 35 00 |
| 75 lbs. Fresh Beef, Pork and Sausage, | 7 50 |
| Dried Apples, | 4 00 |
| Walnuts, | 3 75 |
| Wool and Rolls, | 1 50 |
| Lard, | 2 00 |
| 1 Bbl. Soft Soap, | 5 00 |
| Soap Grease, | 3 00 |
| Molasses, | 3 25 |
| Pickles, | 5 00 |
| Vegetables, | 8 00 |
| Salt Pork and Hams, | 34 00 |
| Salt Beef, | 10 00 |
| 200 Bush. Potatoes, | 150 00 |
| 5 Bush. Beans, | 15 00 |
| Flour, | 4 00 |
| Rye Meal, | 83 |
| Candles, | 3 75 |
| Crackers, | 25 |
| Butter, | 6 00 |
| Salt, | 38 |
| Coffee and Spices, | 75 |
| Sugar, | 60 |
| Tea, | 4 75 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$2315 81 |

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEES.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

In order to meet the requirements of the Statute, I submit the following :

School District No. 1, under the charge of E. R. Burtt, has been well managed. His efforts to secure good teachers have been successful. It is quite apparent that a more hearty co-operation on the part of the parents and citizens in the way of visiting the schools and dropping an encouraging word, would conduce to a higher standard of the scholars, and an appreciation of the harassing duties of the teacher.

Two teachers have been employed in the Grammar Department : Miss Sallie P. Carpenter, of Chichester, for the spring term, with an average attendance of 28 scholars. No comments are necessary, for her qualifications as a scholar and teacher were established before she came here.

The fall and winter terms were taught by Miss Sarah F. Stevens of Wilton. The average attendance during these terms was about the same as the spring term. There is a very great want of energy on the part of many scholars, which contributes to depress and exhaust the teacher. Miss Stevens has labored hard and given good satisfaction.

The primary department was favored with the same teacher, Miss Mary E. Bosworth of Amherst. The average through the year was 29. Quite a number of scholars have neither whispered or been tardy. There should be some changes in this room in regard to the stoves and desks. All scholars in this department should be required to come up to a certain standard before entering the higher school. I consider six consecutive terms in one school a practical recommendation, in appreciation of which your committee feels it due to acknowledge.

GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT, TEACHERS, *Sallie P. Carpenter and Sarah F. Stevens.*

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| Summer Term | 12 weeks, | \$12.00 per week, | \$144.00 | |
| Fall | " 12 " | 12.00 " " | 144.00 | |
| Winter | " 12 " | 12.00 " " | 144.00 | |
| Amount, | | | | \$432.00 |

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT, TEACHER, *Mary E. Bosworth.*

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| Summer Term | 12 weeks, | \$11.00 per week, | \$132.00 | |
| Fall | " 12 " | 11.00 " " | 132.00 | |
| Winter | " 12 " | 12.00 " " | 144.00 | |
| Amount, | | | | \$408.00 |

B. H. BARTLETT.

Amherst, Feb. 27, 1875.

REPORT OF THE TOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

To the Assessors and Citizens of Amherst:

Your committee would submit the following report of the progress of education in the schools for the year ending March 9, 1875.

Nine schools have been under my supervision, in which there have been 22 terms, aggregating 246.5 weeks, to which if there be added the 6 terms of 71 weeks, in the two departments of district No. 1, we shall have 317.5 weeks of schooling for the year at a cost of \$2853.40.

PAID FOR TEACHING IN ALL THE DISTRICTS.

| | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Summer Terms, | \$885.75 |
| Fall " | 616.00 |
| Winter " | 1164.25 |
| Total, | <u>\$2665.00</u> |

Leaving for fuel, repairs &c. \$188.40, of this last sum \$86.10 was expended in repairs, leaving but \$102.30 for fuel to supply eleven schools. There must have been considerable money kept over from last year. The items of expense should all be kept separately in the register, and the amount of money for each expended.

There have been seventeen teachers employed, all females. It may be questioned whether the entire exclusion of the male part of humanity from our teaching force is wise. The difference in expense is now small. Woman, it may be said, is constituted by nature an instructor. In the Primary department she may be equal, if not superior to the other sex, but for those who are balancing between childhood and man and womanhood, a sterner discipline is exceedingly desirable. The controlling power of the two sexes are not alike. The drill of a competent male teacher is just what those who are beginning to be termed young men and young ladies need. A few of our schools would have been benefited by some training of this kind. It requires not a little wisdom sometimes to know which course is best. It is the benefit of the children that should be sought.

The great work of this generation is to educate those who shall succeed them. Not however, to educate them as they were educated, but as much better as possible. Let every parent, and those under whose care, by the changes of providence, children may come, feel that their duty is to furnish them with the means of culture, as much superior to their own as it is in their power to give. Your obligations cease only with the limit of your ability. Your motto should ever be *progress*. The schooling of one generation should never be made the standard for any succeeding one; nor should the school of one year be made the pattern of the following year. Perfection in schools is among the things yet unattained. Let no committee be satisfied in reaching the success of his predecessor. The inspiration should, however, be not the spirit of rivalry, but the spirit of progress. Seek three *betterments*, *better* attendance, *better* order *better* instruction. But the agent and committee are not equal to the accomplishment of all this unaided. There are some things from the nature of the case that especially belong to the parents and guardians. The order of the school often depend more upon those who send the scholars than upon the teacher. Remarks against the teacher and his or her method of correction are sure to show themselves in the school room. Every teacher of experience knows

there is seldom any difficulty with those who are rightly managed. You should not permit prejudice or dislike to betray you into the evil of speaking against a teacher in the presence of your children.

As we believe in *progress* in our schools, so there will be also at different times a necessity of a change in the laws relating to them. The question of the desirableness of a change from the present order, to the "One district system," is before you, having been placed in the hands of an able committee, who are to report the result of their investigation at your annual meeting, it is not therefore necessary that I should give it any extended discussion here. There are but two prominent objections. The first is, that "it takes the management of our schools out of our hands." This is true only in part. It deprives you of some direct official control over the school in your own neighborhood, but gives you an increased interest and control over all the other schools in town. You lose at one point, but gain in nine. All the schools then are yours.

The second objection is, "it will increase the expenses. This would doubtless be true. But is this a valid objection? If you were urged to adopt a new system of farming, and you should object, saying, "it will cost more than my present method." Yet, if you were satisfied that it would double the profits, with only a third more expense, then the increased expense would cease to be an objection.

You could run your schools at a cheaper rate, than you are doing now. From twenty-five to forty years ago, in that old School House, badly out of repair, the stove cracked through the middle, with some of legs broken off, and stones pressed into service as substitutes, with benches extending around the wall, or nearly across the room, whittled through in many places, and a tumbled down funnel, then you or your fathers schooled their children cheaper than we do now. No one should favor increased expenses without a fair prospect of increased returns.

You have been gradually increasing your expenses for the last nine years, from \$1400 to \$2853.40. This is more than doubling your money for schools in this short time. Have you gained nothing? Go into our schools and examine the classes in Mental Arithmetic, Geography and Reading. You will find scholars in these branches ranging from 8 to 14 years of age. Compare them with those of that age 25 and 30 years ago. The time was, within the memory of some now living, when it was not thought necessary for boys to study Grammar, unless they were to be lawyers, ministers or doctors, nor for girls to learn to write or know much of Arithmetic. The same increase of school money for nine years to come, with the one district system, would place your schools in a position where the poorest of your boys and girls could fit themselves for college if they chose.

A very desirable uniformity in books has been secured. There is a constant improvement in Text books, as in tools. I am satisfied the Arithmetic, also the Geography now used in our schools are not the best, and yet I should not deem it advisable to change at present. The Outline Maps still continue to fill a very desirable place. I hope each school will take pride in the careful preservation of them. See that the doors and windows of your school houses are made fast, during vacation. The worst looking set of maps may be found in District No. 3, but the teacher and scholars are not wholly responsible for this. Some tramps entered through the window, one Saturday, and spent the night and part of the next day in the house, and tore down some of the maps to wrap around themselves, for the want of a better covering, while they slept. In some of the schools, (I will not name them) these maps are unmarred and look nearly as bright and fresh as when put up two years ago. Roll them up during vacations, and keep the blinds closed, if you have any.

School Houses are some of them in need of repairs. No. 3 needs a new set of seats, and the room improved. No. 5 does not need any new seats for they have those that are

nice, but it would be a great gain to put in some new windows, and lower them, with other repairs in the room that would make it as good as new.

Your Committee has examined eight teachers; made fifty-one visits; travelled 285 miles; written eighteen letters; and received more than one hundred circulars, asking for the examination of books, pens, globes, maps, and inquiring if any new school houses were being built or old ones repaired, with a kind offer to supply desks and other school furniture at the very lowest prices.

DISTRICT, No. 2.—“ACRE.”

Edward Huntress, Agent.

This school has been improving for the past two years, under the instruction of Miss Mary C. O'Connor. Miss O'Connor has labored with unflinching zeal. The scholars in Reading, Arithmetic and Geography have made perceptible advancement. Through a mistake in the time of the closing of last term, the Committee was not present.

DISTRICT, No. 3.—“CRICKET CORNER.”

Edward Caldwell, Agent.

The first term was taught by Miss Lizzie Jaquith, who has had the charge of this school one term before. The school is small in numbers, but contains some superior scholars of their age. The school was a fair success.

The fall and winter terms were under the charge of Miss Amelia W. Gordon. Miss G. is a graduate of the High School in Concord. She possesses a love for teaching, and keeps her pupils actively engaged. All are interested. The drill in the fundamentals has been thorough. The school is making good progress. The term will not close for two or three weeks. The parents and scholars will not soon forget the fall and winter terms of 1874-5.

DISTRICT No. 4.—“CHRISTIAN HILL.”

* *Horace S. Boutelle, Agent.*

The two terms of 10 and 17 weeks were taught by Miss Viola R. Clark, and the first trial of her skill in teaching. She is an apt scholar and able to teach, and entered upon her work with an earnestness and energy, that indicated a purpose to succeed. Her drill and discipline is of the right stamp. The close of the first term indicated a degree of success beyond expectation.

The winter term was too long for profit; it should have been divided into two terms of 9 and 8 weeks. The teacher and pupils became wearied by its long continuance, and the school did not appear as well as at the first term. Patience with steady and earnest perseverance will enable Miss Clark to be one of the first class teachers.

DISTRICT No 5.—“DANFORTH'S.”

J. A. Boutelle, Agent.

This school has had three terms. The first and last were taught by Miss Luella C. Hutchinson, a teacher who has had experience in the work. The school was well managed and well taught, and a decided success. The different classes appeared better than I had ever seen them before.

The second term was taught by Miss Fannie L. Boynton. This school was her first effort. Following a teacher of so much experience rendered her task the more difficult; but her work was performed with much credit to herself, and the satisfaction of the district. The different branches were well taught and the classes showed good progress.

The winter term was the most difficulty of the three. There were some scholars, who attended this term, that were behind in their studies, from the fact that they had not

attended school for some time. They were anxious to learn, but had no habits of study, and were consequently often discouraged. Miss Hutchinson labored hard for the good of her pupils. The new scholars being unaccustomed to the restraints of the school room, needed to be frequently reminded that they were not in order. The examination was very creditable. There were several specimens of map drawing that were very finely executed, and by some pupils who had never attempted anything of the kind before.

DISTRICT NO. 6.—“POND PARISH.”

Isaiah Berry, Agent.

The two terms of this district were taught by Miss L. A. Wilkins, who also taught the winter term of last year. The school made good progress. Miss Wilkins is very unassuming in her manner of teaching. The school has never appeared better than at the last examination.

DISTRICT NO. 7.—“NOYES.”

A. W. Brown, Agent.

The first term was taught by Miss Angelia M. Brown, who was a scholar in the school a year ago. From the seats to the desk was quite a change in so short a time. Though young, her scholarship was equal to the task. At first, the order was not up to the desirable point, but this improved toward the close, the examination showed success. One little class not able to read distinctly, were drilled upon the map of the U. S. and could point out almost any important place.

The fall and winter terms were under the management of Miss Idella E. Converse. Her first term was carried to its close very pleasantly. Some of the larger boys were disposed to be disorderly in the winter term, two were expelled, but one returned to his place. The close of the school appeared better than could have been expected. Miss Converse is a kind teacher, and if kindness would always conquer, she would have completely mastered the unruly elements in the school. The pupils disposed to learn, made good improvement.

DISTRICT NO. 8.—“CROOKER.”

A. S. Wilkins, Agent.

Miss Lenora A. Smith, who taught the school two years ago, had charge of the first term. This was a good school, with no especially marked features. All were well satisfied.

Miss Mary L. Kelso taught the winter term. The school made good improvement, Miss Kelso has experience and a quiet, but efficient way of teaching. The examination was very satisfactory.

DISTRICT NO. 9.—“CHESTNUT HILLS.”

Thomas M. Harvell, Agent.

The first term was taught by Miss Mary E. Tuttle; and the last *two* by Miss Helen A. Kelso. Both are excellent teachers; but there must be some fault somewhere when the registers show 363 tardy marks; and 691 absent days in the three terms, not including those of the last week. This is a hill country and most of the children have quite a distance to go, which might be some excuse, during the past severe weather, did not the fall term show the same amount of absenteeism and tardiness. It is hoped that a remedy may be found. There are good and promising scholars here, and the school has succeeded better than could have been expected.

DISTRICT No 10.—“SKEETERVILLE.”

P. F. Odell, Agent.

This school has been very prosperous for the whole year. It was always pleasant to meet them. The first term was taught by Miss Bessie P. Fuller, and was her first work of the kind. She proved herself fully capable of doing it *well*. She possesses some very important qualities necessary in a first class teacher. She managed her classes well, and they made good improvement. Experience and perseverance is only needed to make her work in this line easy and pleasant.

The winter term was under the charge of Miss Esther P. Tuten, who is a working teacher, and this term furnished a good field for it. The school was larger than formerly; and some of the scholars advanced. Some have closed this part of their education, and leave capable of taking charge of schools themselves. The school was a success every way.

DISTRICTS Nos. 11 & 12

are union schools, with districts in Merrimack. The first 8, and second 4 scholars; 8 boys and 4 girls.

TEXT BOOKS.—National Reader and Speller, Guyot's Geography, Eaton's Arithmetic, Green's Grammar, Robinson's Algebra, Quackenbos' Natural Philosophy, Quackenbos' History of United States.

A. HEALD, Superintending Committee.

Amherst, Feb. 25, 1875.



